

Quotes from First Lady Laura Bush About Libraries

Laura Bush's passion for reading was sparked at an early age. As a child, she dreamed of one day becoming a teacher. Her dream was prompted by an early introduction to books by her mother at the local public library in her birthplace of Midland, Texas. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Southern Methodist University and a master's degree in library science from the University of Texas at Austin. She worked as a public teacher and librarian in the Houston, Dallas and Austin school systems.

The following quotes are taken from First Lady Laura Bush's official speeches about libraries, which can be found at the White House website:

www.whitehouse.gov/firstlady/news-speeches/index.html#10

Quotes:

"This library, like thousands across America, stands as a beacon for education and information. Children know that if they have a question about the world, the library is the place to find the answer. And someone will always be here to help them find the answer - our dedicated librarians. I want to thank the librarians here today. Your job is an important one. Our nation runs on the fuel of information and imagination that libraries provide. Librarians educate and inform the public, and by doing so, they strengthen our great democracy."

"A love of books of holding a book, turning its pages, looking at its pictures, and living its fascinating stories goes hand-in-hand with a love of learning. Every child in America should have access to a well-stocked school library."

"Whatever the question, the answer is at your library. Whether you are exploring life's possibilities or simply whiling away a few pleasant hours in the company of fascinating characters, the resources are at your library. And if you need guidance in searching for just the right information, the people to help you are at your library."

"I am proud of the President's commitment to America's libraries and librarians. I am proud of every librarian and library volunteer. And I am proud of all those wonderful Americans who devote their time and energies to helping their neighbors, young and old, become a nation of readers."

"There's nothing quite like a trip to the library. Whether you choose a casual stroll down the aisles of books or a speedy trip along the Information Superhighway, libraries will allow you to journey as far and as wide as your imagination wants to go."

"Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open."